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TRANSMITTAL  
FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/001,489
Filing Date	10/23/01
First Named Inventor	Malik
Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	Therkorn, Ernest G.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	15
Attorney Docket Number	7414-6

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TC 1700

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Response to Office Action
Remarks		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual	Akerman Senterfitt Neil R. Jetter
Signature	
Date	10/21/03

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed	Neil R. Jetter
Signature	
Date	10/21/03

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MALIK, A. Examiner: THERKORN, ERNEST G.

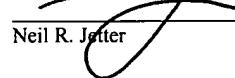
Serial No.: 10/001,489 Group Art Unit: 1723

Filing Date: October 23, 2001

Title: SAMPLE PRECONCENTRATION TUBES WITH SOL-GEL  
SURFACE COATINGS AND/OR SOL-GEL MONOLITHIC BEDS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

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Neil R. Jetter Reg. No. 46,803

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 21, 2003, a Reply is presented as follows.

In the claims

1. (Previously amended) A method of preconcentrating trace analytes, comprising the steps of:

providing a hollow capillary having at least one sol-gel extraction medium within said hollow capillary, said sol-gel extraction medium chemically bound to inner walls of said hollow capillary to form a sol-gel extraction medium-loaded capillary, and

exposing said loaded capillary to a sample containing at least one target analyte, wherein said target analyte becomes disposed inside said loaded capillary.